

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 22-41 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claims 23-25, 31, 40 and 41 as being allowable and the subject matter of claims 26-28 and 36-39 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have not yet rewritten these claims in independent form, but instead have amended independent claim 22 from which they depend.

Claim for Priority

The Examiner has not recognized the Applicants' Claim for Foreign Priority. The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge Applicants' Claim in the next Office Action.

Drawings

The official draftsman has not approved the formal drawings submitted by Applications. It is respectfully submitted that the drawings comply with the requirements of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. If the official draftsman has any objections to the formal drawings, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned as soon as possible so that appropriate action may be taken. No further action is believed to be necessary at this time unless the undersigned receives a notice from the official draftsman.

Acknowledgement of Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has acknowledged the Information Disclosure Statement filed on May 10, 2005. An initialed copy of the PTO-1449 has been received the Examiner. It is noted that the Examiner has indicated that Reference BC was not submitted and was crossed off rather than being initialed. Applicants point out the coverage of the Information Disclosure Statement indicates that this reference was not provided because it was previously cited by or submitted in

prior application no. PCT/JP2003/014250 filed November 10, 2003. Applicants request the Examiner to consider this reference.

Rejection under 35 USC 102

Claims 22, 29, 30 and 32-35 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Thursby et al. (US Patent 6,486,844). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of the present Amendment, Applicants have amended claim 22 to further define the present invention. Claim 22 now describes an antenna for multiple bands having a combination of elements including having one end of antenna element electrically connected to a feeding point, one end of switches being connected to at least one intermediate point and the other end of the antenna element, the other end of one of the switches being connected to ground directly and the ends of the other switches being connected to the ground conductor with an extension coil or a short capacitor inserted in series, different electrical lengths from the feeding point to the switches being set to be capable of resonating at different frequency bands so that resident frequencies from the different electrical lengths are not close to each other.

The Examiner cited Thursby et al. to show an antenna 10, 50 for multiple bands having a feeding point 45 with one end of switches being connected to at least one intermediate point and the other ends being connected to a ground conductor. Applicants submit that the Thursby et al. reference does not show the combination of elements now described in claim 22. In particular, it is noted that claim 22 as amended now specifically describes the connections of the switches with one being connected to the ground conductor directly and others being connected through a coil or short capacitor. This arrangement relates to an embodiment such as that shown in Figure 9 of the present application. This type of arrangement is not shown in Thursby et al. Thursby et al. shows an arrangement having connections at intermediate points from the horizontal conductor 14 but does not show the specific connections to switch, coils and capacitors as is presently described. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 22 is patentable over the Thursby et al. reference.

Claims 29, 30 and 32-35 depend from this allowable independent claim and as such are also considered to be allowable. In addition, each of these claims recite other features of the

invention and especially the particular shape of the antenna elements. Accordingly, Applicants submit that these claims are additionally allowable.

Conclusion

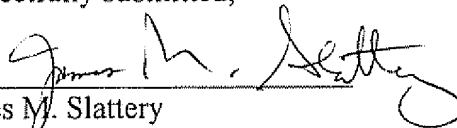
In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied on by the Examiner. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert F. Gnuse Reg. No. 27,295 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 4, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 
James M. Slattery

Registration No.: 28,380

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant